HCS HB 1183 -- HEMP EXTRACT

SPONSOR: Jones

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Emerging Issues by a vote of 12 to 0. Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Select Standing Committee on General Laws by a vote of 8 to 0.

This bill clarifies that only specified board certified neurologists may recommend hemp extract and sign the statement authorizing its use as part of the treatment plan of a patient diagnosed with intractable epilepsy.

The bill specifies that an individual or health care entity organized under the laws of this state cannot be subject to any adverse action by the state or any of its agencies, including civil, criminal, and administrative penalties, if the person or entity, in its normal course of business and within its applicable licenses and regulations, acts upon or in furtherance of a statement, order, or recommendation by an authorized neurologist involving the medical use, possession, handling, storage, transfer, destruction, dispensing, or administration of hemp extract with respect to an eligible patient. It requires individuals or health care entities to act in good faith to receive protection and benefit of these provisions.

The bill has an emergency clause

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill clarifies previous language to ensure that health care entities and doctors are not subject to any administrative penalties for the proper prescription of hemp oil. This bill indicates that state agencies should not impose penalties based on federal laws or interpretations of laws regarding marijuana.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Jones; St. Louis Children's Hospital; Washington University; and Aaron Malice, Show Me Cannibus.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.